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TORONTO

EXCELLENCE HIGHLIGHTED
Winners of the annual
Awards of Excellence
exemplify what's best
about U of T — pages 8 & 9

APRIL 15, 2008 61st year, number 16

the Bulletin

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CALL FOR PARTICIPATION
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ACCELERATE Ontario is a new applied research internship program providing funding for university-industry collaborations in Ontario. The program supports graduate students to undertake research on-site and explore issues and problems arising within the partner company. Visit www.research.utoronto.ca/funding/ff_grad_opportunities.html for more information.

WWW.NEWS.UTORONTO.CA/BULLETIN

Here's lookin' at you



LESLIE BUSH

Assistant vice-provost (health-sector) Leslie Bush, the grand prize winner in the *Bulletin's* photo contest, took this lively picture during a trip to Cuba.

U of T top diversity employer

BY KERRY KELLY

The University of Toronto can add a new title to its collection of top employer accolades. MediaCorp has named U of T one of Canada's Best Diversity Employers for 2008, the first year the company has run this competition.

Canada's Best Diversity Employers recognizes employers with exceptional workplace diversity and inclusiveness programs. Employers were judged on a range of criteria covering five major employee groups: women, visible minorities, persons with disabilities, aboriginal Canadians and gay and lesbian employees.

U of T was one of only 25 employers from across the country selected for this honour.

Noted among U of T's accomplishments in promoting diversity in the workplace were the university's spectrum of equity offices that respond to a wide range of equity issues including anti-racism, cultural diversity and the status of women. The creation of an aboriginal initiatives co-ordinator position was also recognized.

The co-ordinator works with native organizations to inform them of employment opportunities at the university and to encourage applications from the aboriginal community. Training provided by a human resources committee on LGBT issues was also seen as

... U OF T ON PAGE 4

U of T celebrates Juno winners

BY ELAINE SMITH

A University of Toronto faculty member, a student and an alumna all returned victorious from the 2008 Juno Awards, held April 5 and 6 in Calgary.

The Juno Awards celebrate Canadian music excellence, as exemplified by Professor Christos Hatzis, jazz singer Sophie Milman and classical soprano Measha Brueggergosman.

Hatzis, a professor of composition in the Faculty of Music, won the Classical Composition of the Year award for his work, *Constantinople*. The recording features the Gryphon Trio, the Faculty of Music's resident ensemble. Two of its members, pianist Jamie Parker and violinist AnnaLee Patipatanakoon, are also U of T faculty.

This is the second Juno Award for Hatzis, an accomplished composer whose work is inspired by early Christian spirituality, his own Byzantine heritage and various non-classical music genres. He also won a Juno for the Classical Composition of the Year in 2006 for his *String Quartet No. 1 (The Awakening)*. His recent works are known for bridging the gap between classical music and popular music.

Commerce student Milman, a jazz sensation, won the Vocal Jazz Album of the Year Juno Award for her second album, *Make Someone Happy*. Milman, who served as a presenter during the televised portion of the awards ceremony, came to Canada at age 16 and began singing as a release from other pressures in her life. Her talent

overshadows her lack of formal training: she already has one hit album behind her and has played to sellout crowds in North America, Europe and Asia.

Brueggergosman, a 1998 Faculty of Music graduate, has rapidly ascended to stardom thanks to a rich voice and a warm personality. Her Juno Award for Classical Album of the Year: Vocal or Choral Performance, was presented for her recording *Surprise*, her solo debut album recorded for the elite Deutsche Grammophon label.

Brueggergosman's Carnegie Hall debut in 2005 was only one in a long list of her prestigious concert engagements, including a Royal Command Performance for Queen Elizabeth II. She has also performed with such respected orchestras as the New York Philharmonic and the London Symphony Orchestra.

"I am delighted for all of our winners, as well as the many faculty who were nominees," said Professor Russell Hartenberger, interim dean of music. "It is a testament to the strength of U of T's music program that year after year we can celebrate both nominations and awards. Such recognition is a wonderful bonus for those doing work they deeply love."



HATZIS, ATWOOD
TO CREATE OPERA

... SEE JUNO PAGE 6

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Exit laughing ...

At least, I hope you will! The humour column is back in the *Bulletin*. With Nick Pashley's departure, we lost a lighthearted aspect of our paper, something that many of you mourned. In fact, we haven't had so much mail on a single topic in many months, a tribute to Nick's wit, humour and writing skill.

Now, two new writers are following in his footsteps in a feature we're calling He Said, She Said. The He in question is Paul Fraumeni, director of communications for the vice-president (research), who enjoys laughing at the absurdities of modern life. His column this month addresses the universal need to add one's two cents to every discussion. The She is Caz Zvyatkauskas, design supervisor and lead designer for the *Bulletin*, whose ironic, dry wit complements Fraumeni well. Their columns will alternate, one each month, so prepare to be entertained.

There's also humour to be found in art, as Leslie Bush, our *Bulletin* photo contest grand prize winner, demonstrates on the front page of this issue. Her colourful subject — both literally and figuratively — is clearly enjoying a stogie twice the size of anything your average cigar-lover would puff. Every time I look at her, I smile.

Tanya Mars, the Governor General's Award winner profiled on page 6, also combines art and humour in her performance work, noting "I think it's important to laugh at yourself." She has found that it's possible to make a serious statement while not taking herself too seriously, a lesson that has resonance for those of us in other walks of life, too.

However, writers and visual artists don't have a corner on the market when it comes to humour. Jazz vocalist and student Sophie Millman, one of the Juno Award winners celebrated on page 1, also understands the importance of playfulness. Tune in to her current album, *Make Someone Happy*, and chuckle as you enjoy her rendition of Kermit the Frog's renowned dirty, (it's Not Easy) Bean' Green.

I hope this issue of the *Bulletin* offers you a few reasons to smile. If you'd like to suggest other ideas, please call me at 978-7016 or e-mail me at elaine.smith@utoronto.ca.

Cheers,

Elaine

Elaine

the Bulletin

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THIS WEEK • ON THE COVER:

The design in the top box and the sidebar uses details of the OISE building on Bloor Street.



FACULTY OF ARTS & SCIENCE

Professor Miriam Diamond of geography has been appointed co-chair of Ontario's toxics reduction scientific expert panel. Made up of representatives from the scientific and medical communities, the panel will advise which toxics should be the focus of immediate attention, action and reductions as the new toxics reduction strategy and legislation are developed. A member of the science advisory board of the International Joint Commission, Diamond's research focuses on chemical contaminants, tracing their concentrations and behaviour from emission through to environmental transport and finally exposure and potential health effects in humans.

Professor Barry Wellman of sociology and the Centre for Urban and Community Studies is the winner of the International Communication Association's award for Communication Research as an Open Field, given to a researcher who has made important contributions to the field of communications from outside the discipline of communications. It rewards and supports dialogue with other fields in which vital new understandings of the communications environment and public sphere are being produced. The award will be presented during the association's annual meeting May 22 to 26 in Montreal.

ROTMAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

The Rotman School of Management is the winner of an International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) 2008 Gold Quill Award of Excellence in the electronic and digital communications management for its

AWARDS & HONORS

website. The Gold Quill Awards are the mark of global distinction and the highest level of professional acknowledgment within business communication today.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Professors Dimitri Anastakis of surgery, **Julie Maggi** of psychiatry and **Vicky Steriopoulos** of psychiatry have been selected to receive Canadian Association for Medical Education Certificate of Merit awards. The aim of the award is to promote medical education in Canadian medical schools and to recognize and reward faculty commitment to medical education. Winners will receive their certificates during the association's annual general meeting May 3 to 7 in Montreal.

U OF T MISSISSAUGA

The Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre, designed by Shore Tilbe Irwin Partners, is the winner of a 2008 Design Excellence Award, given by the Ontario Association of Architects to recognize and profile the innovative, expanding skills of Ontario architects in creating spaces, buildings and communities that enrich and support work and leisure activities, promote business success and respect the environment while enhancing unique context. The awards dinner and presentation will take place May 2 in Niagara Falls, Ont.

OISE/UT

Professor Njoki Wane, director of the Centre for Anti-Racism Studies, is among the 13 recipients of the Harry Jerome Award, given by the Black Business and Professional Association to celebrate excellence in the African-Canadian community. Named for Olympic medalist Harry Jerome, the award honours similar role models who are effecting change in their communities. Wane researches equity and diversity issues, particularly African Indigenous knowledge and black Canadian feminism; she will receive the award at a gala dinner April 26 in Toronto.

COMPILED BY AILSA FERGUSON

New round of CFI funding enhances research infrastructure

BY ANJALI BAICHWAL

How safe is the Internet? How do toddlers develop language skills? What role do hormone receptors play in disease? These are some of the questions University of Toronto researchers are asking with help from \$2.3 million in new funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).

The new funding supports 15 U of T projects through CFI's Leaders Opportunity Fund, a program reflecting Canada's fast-evolving research environment and designed to give universities added flexibility in attracting and retaining leading researchers. In total, CFI awarded \$22.5 million to 134 projects across the country. U of T received the largest share of that funding.

"We can say with conviction that Canada has become a place where world-class

researchers want to be," said **Dr. Eliot Phillipson**, president and chief executive officer of the Canada Foundation for Innovation. "This CFI investment will further develop U of T's global reputation as a place where outstanding research and training is being conducted."

U of T's executive director of research program funding, **Judith Chadwick**, said, "CFI funding benefits both promising young researchers new to academia as well as established leaders drawn from Canada, the U.S. and abroad. The funding helps ensure that these scholars have the necessary tools such as labs and equipment to conduct leading-edge research."

The recipients of the latest round of funding are: **Yashar Ganjali** (computer science); **Voula Kanelis** (U of T Mississauga, chemistry); **Alan Moses** (cell and tissues

biology); **Patrick Gunning** (U of T Mississauga, chemistry); **Elizabeth Johnson** (U of T Mississauga, psychology); **Lee Adamson** (obstetrics and gynecology); **Mark Taylor** (chemistry); **Joyce Poon** (electrical and computer engineering); **Myrna Simpson** (U of T Scarborough, environmental chemistry); **Andrew Emili** (proteomics and bioinformatics); **Steven Short** (U of T Mississauga, biology); **Stefan Saroiu** (computer science); **Helene Wagner** (U of T Mississauga, biology); **Kenneth Croitoru** (medicine); and **Carolyn Cummins** (pharmacy).

U of T is gearing up for CFI's 2008 Leading Edge Fund/ New Initiatives Fund competition later this year. For more information on the competition, go to: www.research.utoronto.ca. For a look at one of the funded researchers, see page 7.

Scarborough principal looks to future

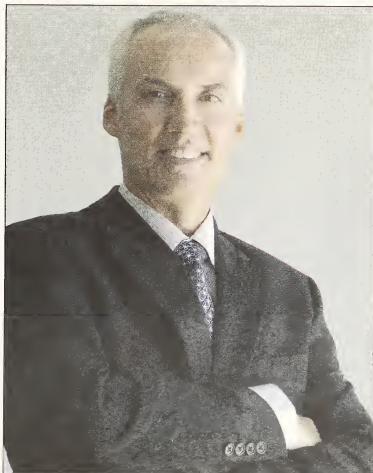
BY ANJUM MAYR

If you ask Professor Franco Vaccarino, vice-president and principal of the University of Toronto Scarborough, about his vision for UTSC's future, he'll tell you he wants to provide students with exciting and cutting-edge choices that speak not only to the highest standards of excellence but are also responsive to the changing societal landscape. He believes U of T Scarborough is in a special position to add value and contribute in unique ways to the U of T community and to the broader post-secondary landscape in Ontario.

"Being a part of the U of T family is really a platform that stands for excellence. At the same time, our tri-campus configuration offers us the opportunity to diversify and look for innovative directions that we can express differently in excellence and internationalism," he said. "We [UTSC] are also young and along with youth comes the potential for more flexibility and the ability to be quick off the mark. I'm hoping that UTSC both nationally and internationally can look at going into new areas in a timely and responsive manner."

Vaccarino, who was installed last year as principal, said he has spent a portion of his first year looking at the operational and capital plans needed to support a solid strategic plan for the campus. Some areas he said the campus needs to be thinking carefully about include enhanced graduate training programs; experiential learning and related teaching innovations; and internationalism.

"We have top notch faculty and students here. Planning represents an opportunity to build on that platform," Vaccarino said. "A key part of my goal this year is to develop a five-year strategic plan that



Principal Vaccarino sees numerous opportunities for U of T Scarborough to have an impact in the eastern GTA.

identifies and clarifies the academic programs and directions that we want to emphasize in the years to come. More generally I'd also like to look at what opportunities we have as a major hub in the eastern part of the GTA that speaks to social, cultural and scholarly opportunities. As such, we hope to play a more central role in developments in this part of the province."

Vaccarino said he's very proud of the diversity of the student population at UTSC. The campus' offerings in experiential learning represent a significant opportunity to build upon, he said, while its co-op and joint programs are already well established in providing students with unique learning opportunities.

"We're of a size that's still reasonable enough that it lends itself to a real community feel while at the same time it's large enough to have an impact nationally and internationally."

In developing future directions and priorities, Vaccarino pointed out it's essential that the university be responsive to student needs.

One of Vaccarino's first priorities in this regard is to help enhance graduate education and the research enterprise in a targeted way.

"We grew by 100 per cent in students but we didn't grow anywhere near that in terms of capital needs," he said. "We have a science building that will be open by end of summer — a brand new science research building that will house graduate and research activities and will go some way towards closing that gap."

And Vaccarino's no stranger to student needs at U of T. Having earned his undergraduate degree at U of T, Vaccarino returned in 1984 as an assistant professor at the Scarborough campus. He later served as chair of the Department of Psychology at the St. George campus and as graduate chair of the tri-campus Graduate Department of Psychology.

He's also an award-winning scholar who has been internationally recognized for his interdisciplinary research accomplishments in the areas of neuroscience, addiction, mood and anxiety systems.

"It does feel like a coming home for me. It's been fascinating coming back a little over 20 years later to a campus that still enjoys such a strong sense of community."

COURTESY OF U OF T SCARBOROUGH

OISE professor uses unsolved mysteries as teaching tool

BY ELAINE SMITH

When Professor Ruth Sandwell helped press the launch button at Hart House April 2, the only explosion in the room was a cascade of information that appeared on the Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History website (www.canadianmysteries.ca).

Sandwell, an associate professor in the Department of Theory and Policy Studies at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education/UT, is a co-director of the website project, which is designed to engage high school students in the study of history and teach them about Canada by giving them the raw materials to draw their own conclusions about past events.

The mystery launched April 2 is entitled Death on a Painted Lake, a study of painter Tom Thomson's mysterious death in Ontario's Algonquin Park in 1917. Graduate student Gregory Klages of York University compiled a variety of historical documents — letters, photos and inquest information, for example — that shed light on the reason Thomson's body was found floating in Canoe Lake, but students must read the evidence and

draw their own conclusions.

"As graduate students in the 1990s,

John Lutz (of the University of Victoria) and I were involved in teaching history for the first time," Sandwell said. "We were struck by the differences between what we did as historians and what we did as history teachers; the work we did as historical researchers was open and engaging work with historical documentation but in teaching, we felt we were giving students a package to consume, rather than providing them with a process of how to explore evidence."

Their desire to engage their students in doing history led to the creation of a website, Who Killed William Robinson?, based on the murder of an African-American settler on Salt Spring Island, B.C., in 1868. The website was launched in 1997 and the response was instantaneous and overwhelming. Teachers flooded the pair with requests for teaching materials.

With support from the Department of Canadian Heritage, the site has grown over the past five years to include 12 mysteries — presented in both English and French. Each site also includes extensive support for teachers.

"We had three main criteria in selecting the mysteries for the site," Sandwell said. "We wanted real-life mysteries from Canada's past that would immediately grab the attention of students and lure them into doing history; we wanted to be sure that the mysteries also tapped into major themes and issues in Canadian history; finally, we wanted mysteries where a historian had already uncovered enough documentation that would provide a rich environment for students to come up with their own solution to the mystery."

Sandwell and her co-directors (Lutz,

mentioned above, and Peter Gossage of the University of Sherbrooke) have succeeded beyond their wildest dreams. The site gets millions of hits annually and has won three international awards for online education. Most important, the site is used by thousands of teachers in Canada and beyond.

"Knowing our history and learning to think in critical, evidence-based ways about the past provides us with the skills we need to think about the present and be strong members of a participatory democracy," she said.



OISE professor Ruth Sandwell (centre) and Hart House Warden Louise Cowin (right) take part in launching the newest Great Unsolved Mystery.

PASCAL ROULETTE

Faculty Housing Program for New Faculty

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U of T top diversity employer

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
distinguishing U of T from other applicants.

"We approach equity, diversity and excellence in a complex and comprehensive way and I am very pleased the university is being recognized so significantly for our efforts", said **Professor Angela Hildyard**, vice-president (human resources and equity).

"Equity officers engage with

the university community every day to provide innovative and proactive programs and services — their work and the work of so many others in divisions across the university deserves to be celebrated."

Connie Guberman, status of women officer and special adviser on equity issues, acknowledged that "it is wonderful to be named one of Canada's leading diversity

employers but we are very aware that there is still more to be done. We are committed to continuing our efforts toward greater equity, diversity and inclusion."

To find out more about U of T's commitment to diversity, please read the university's Statement on Equity Diversity and Excellence at
www.equity.utoronto.ca/equity%20statement.pdf.

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GOVERNING COUNCIL BRIEFS**TUITION FEE SCHEDULE APPROVED**


Governing Council approved the tuition fee schedule for 2008-09 at its April 10 meeting, despite an attempt by some protestors to disrupt the meeting. The new tuition schedule was designed in accordance with the university's policy on tuition, the university's objective of maintaining excellence in all programs and the provincial government's tuition framework. It also reflects the fact that no increases in the government's per-pupil funding are expected. According to the provincial framework, announced in 2006, universities may increase tuition by up to 4.5 per cent for the first year of most first-entry programs and by up to four per cent for all in-program students. A tuition increase of up to eight per cent for professional programs is also permitted, provided that the overall average increase in tuition across the institution is no more than five per cent. The proposed tuition schedule will increase tuition revenue in 2008-09 by \$46.2 million. This is the total increase due to the combined effect of the increase in price and increases in enrolment. The price component is \$22.4 million in new revenue, which will go towards maintaining and improving quality in a variety of areas including academic and service support, improved classroom and laboratory facilities and increased student study spaces. Increased expenditures are also forecast for the coming year in order to provide additional student aid, graduate student support, to enhance quality and meet academic priorities. Self-funded programs will also see tuition fee increases consistent with the increasing costs of delivering these programs. Since these programs are not funded under the government's operating grants program, tuition levels are set to avoid budget deficits.

GOVERNING COUNCIL SAYS YES TO VARSITY FEE INCREASE

Staff at the new Varsity Centre will have the flexibility to prioritize student use of the facility and the opportunity to expand intramural athletics, thanks to Governing Council approval of an increased athletic fee for students on the St. George campus. The fee was recommended by the Council on Student Services, the body which advises Governing Council on non-academic student fees. University Affairs Board concurred at its March 25 meeting and directed the athletics and recreation operating plans and fees. The fee — an additional \$9 per full-time student per term — will allow student groups to have top priority, increase the number of intramural teams and drastically reduce waiting time for creation of new teams. The fee also ensures that the ratio of student use vs. outside rentals remains at 75 per cent to 25 per cent and that U of T students receive the most and best time slots throughout the year. The fee was the subject of some controversy among student organizations, with some outspoken in support and others equally vocal in opposition. However, the final vote by representatives from these groups and others at the Council of Student Services was 12 to 4 in favour of the fee.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEAN'S TERM EXTENDED

Professor Bruce Kidd will continue to lead the Faculty of Physical Education and Health for an additional two years, beginning July 1, 2008 until June 30, 2010. The extension of his appointment was announced April 9 by **Professor Vivek Goel**, vice-president and provost. Throughout his term as dean, Kidd has focused on the promotion and strengthening of the faculty and was instrumental in realizing the long-anticipated revitalization of Varsity Stadium. A passionate spokesperson for the Faculty of Physical Education and Health, both to the internal university community and to the broader external community, Kidd has led the faculty in contributing significantly to public policy advancement and community outreach. He has also been a tireless advocate for equity and diversity in physical and health education, as well as for the principles of inclusion and accessibility within co-curricular programs. "Professor Kidd is a distinguished colleague who has served the faculty and the university with distinction and dedication during his term as dean," Goel said. "I am extremely grateful that he has deferred his leave plans in order to continue to serve the university."

U of T appoints new chief information officer

BY ELAINE SMITH

Robert Cook, the chief information officer at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education/UT, was named the University of Toronto's chief information officer (CIO) by Governing Council at its April 10 meeting. He will assume the position May 12.

The new position was created as a result of recommendations made by the information technology services review committee in its 2007 report. The report also recommended that institutional level information technology services report to him. Administrative management systems, computing network services, student information systems and strategic computing will

all fall under the CIO's umbrella. The new position will allow for greater service co-ordination and prioritization, the systematic incorporation of best practices and the alignment of information technology investments with institutional priorities.

Cook joined the university in 1990 as the head of the Technology for Advanced

in 2004. While at OISE/UT he has been primarily associated with initiatives that harness information and communications technology to the academic agenda.

The new chief information officer has a BA from the University of Toronto, a master's degree from the University of Iowa College of Education and a diploma in media resources from B.C.'s Capilano College.

Cook has spent his career in the education sector. He worked in the media resources program at Capilano College from 1976 to 1985 and was co-ordinator and teaching master in the coursework design and production program at Sheridan College from 1985 to 1990.

www.provost.utoronto.ca/committees/reviews/its.htm

Learning Centre. From 1996 to 2004 he was co-director (technology) for Education Commons at OISE/UT and was one of the architects of its creation. He became OISE/UT's chief information officer

Hildyard to serve second term

BY ELAINE SMITH

Professor Angela Hildyard

will serve a second term as vice-president (human resources and equity) beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2011. Governing Council endorsed the reappointment at its April 10 meeting. "Professor Hildyard is a distinguished colleague who has demonstrated outstanding leadership both as a member of the university's executive team and in the direction and

strategic oversight of the human resources and equity portfolio," said **President David Naylor**.

"She has demonstrated outstanding competence in facilitating equitable and sustainable relationships in a complex university environment with 23 employee groups. She also maintains an active scholarly life, working with a number of doctoral students at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education/UT."

During her first term,

Hildyard oversaw scores of negotiations with employee representatives. Under her leadership, U of T was named one of Canada's Top 100 Employers for three consecutive years and one of the Top 50 Employers in the GTA for two years running.

This year, U of T was named one of Canada's best diversity employers. Hildyard and her staff also introduced the Speaking Up employee experience survey, the university's first staff and faculty experience survey.

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Dr. Mark Vale

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Juno Award-winning professor teams with Atwood to create Canadian opera

BY MARIA SAROS LEUNG

Internationally renowned composer and U of T professor of music **Christos Hatzis** is adding a new dimension to his already impressive career. Hatzis is penning the music for *Pauline*, an opera based on the life of Canadian poet, writer and actress Pauline Johnson.

The opera's subject is not its only tie to Canadian literature. The libretto for Pauline is being written by Giller Prize-winning author **Margaret Atwood**, a U of T alumna who has written extensively about the artist in the past.

The opera, Hatzis' first, is also the first for Atwood. It is being commissioned for dramatic mezzo singer **Judith Forst** by City Opera Vancouver. *Pauline* will debut in 2010.

"It is a great honour to work with a librettist like Margaret Atwood and a soprano like Judith Forst, who is a legend in Canadian singing," Hatzis said.

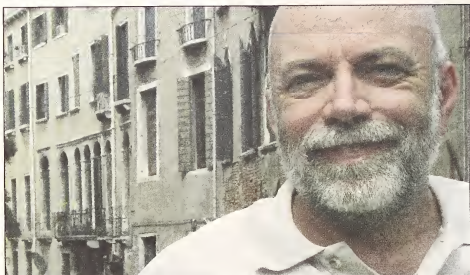
Johnson (1861 to 1913) was an independent woman and remarkable artist. She was born on the Six Nations

Reserve near Brantford, Ont., the child of a Mohawk chief and a Quaker Englishwoman. She travelled across North America and Great Britain giving readings of her work, which was unusual for a woman of that period.

Hatzis said he was drawn to the opera because of its powerful themes. "The story has a lot of themes that resonate with me. The way women were viewed at the turn of the century in Canada. She was a person of dual lineage. Living in Victorian society, she was an artist and a woman of the stage, which at the time wasn't a socially respected thing."

Johnson spent the last years of her life in Vancouver, eventually dying from breast cancer. *Pauline* is set during the last week of the artist's life.

"What was really interesting to me was that the whole opera actually takes place during the last few days of her life. She was dying of cancer and mostly under the influence of morphine at the time," Hatzis said. "Most of the flashbacks that happen during the opera, they have a certain hallucinatory quality. All of that



COURTESY OF CHRISTOS HATZIS

Music professor Christos Hatzis hopes to capture Pauline Johnson's spirit in song.

makes for a really interesting treatment."

Hatzis, who has taught at U of T since 1995, is no stranger to vocal composition. He has created numerous works for choirs and soloists, including *Water* and *Easter Kontakion* and *Constantinople*, his 2008 Juno Award-

winning composition (see story on page 1) for mezzo-soprano, Middle Eastern singer, (alto) violin, violoncello, piano and electronic audiovisual media. He also won a Juno for classical composition of the year in 2006 for the instrumental *String Quartet No. 1 (The Awakening)*.

UTSC's Mars wins Governor General's Award

BY AILSA FERGUSON

Tanya Mars, a senior lecturer and program supervisor in visual and performing arts in the Department of Humanities at U of T Scarborough, is among the six winners of this year's prestigious Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts given for artistic achievement. The awards were announced by the Canada Council for the Arts March 25.

Cited as one of Canada's most innovative multidisciplinary artists, Mars has been active in the

A founder of Powerhouse in Montreal in 1973, one of the first feminist art collectives in Canada, she was also editor of *Paralldiagramme* from 1976 to 1989 and co-edited the definitive *Caught in the Act: An Anthology of Performance Art by Canadian Women* (2005).

"It's a great honour and it's very humbling," said Mars, a feminist multidisciplinary performance and video artist, "particularly in my esoteric little field. I think, too, it's really good for my field to have it acknowledged in this way."

"I see it as recognition of a lifelong work." Among the celebratory events is an exhibition at the National Gallery of Canada featuring all the artists. The curator, **Josée-Britanie Mallet**, selected Pure Virtue from Mars' body of work. The central image is Mars breathing fire as Queen Elizabeth I. "It's a sort of cabaret performance with text that's been appropriated from Shakespeare and 16th-century medical practitioners and from popular culture, film and history," Mars said.

She reconstructed the performance to make a videotape to be shown at the exhibition along with the costume and a blown up George Whiteside photo of her breathing fire on top of a building, taken to grace the inaugural cover of a now defunct magazine *TO*. The official opening of the exhibition was March 27, with the awards ceremony

taking place March 28 in the ballroom of Rideau Hall.

"My main interest is to make narratives that put women at the centre as opposed to the periphery. I'm trying to create images, strong images and positive images, of women," she said in describing her work. "I feel very strongly about being

recognized as a feminist, I'm not ashamed of being a feminist and I'm not buying into the backlash of anti-feminism. I think I'll beat the feminist drum until the day I die. While some of my work may not be directly didactic or directly about feminism, I think it is always about making strong images about

women."

But she added, "I like to have a healthy dash of humour. So I like to poke fun at my own political dogma and I think it's important to laugh at yourself. If there were three words that would summarize my interests they would be women, power and humour."

Chancellor showcases student art

BY CATHERINE NGAI

U of T has yet another facet to boast about:

their talented visual studies students who have created works of art that are currently on display in the chancellor's office.

"The purpose of the exhibition was to give student artists a more public forum to display

their work to people who wouldn't otherwise get to see it" said **Nadine McHorgb**, university events co-ordinator, who organized the exhibition at the behest of **Chancellor David Peterson**.

The informal art gallery was launched March 3 to celebrate arts within the student population as part of the U of T Festival of the Arts 2008. For the second consecutive year, students had the opportunity to display a diverse range of artwork in media such as photography, paint, printmaking, silkscreen, video art, sculpture, etchings and drawings.

Approximately 55 studio program students from the St. George and Mississauga campuses participated in the exhibition. The works were reviewed and selected by the

instructors and professors in their courses with final input from the chancellor's office.

"I was flattered," said fourth-year student

Samantha Lau. Lau describes her piece as a dollar store bought plastic dinner setting transformed into a statement about contradictions and futurity. "I feel that my ideas are more refined and condensed. This

art exhibit just shows that I have improved." Third-year student **Michelle Johnson** admitted feeling disconnected from the university since most of her classes are located at Sheridan College.

"The chancellor's exhibition was the first time I've ever had my work on display outside of my program," she said. "I thought it was a huge honour and it made me feel more a part of the entirety of U of T."

"I think what fosters artistic growth and expression in the arts at U of T is the sense of community among students, faculty and staff.

There is a genuine enthusiasm for creation in the community and I am personally inspired to create by the art that my peers and faculty produce."



Senior lecturer Tanya Mars

Canadian alternative art scene since the early 1970s. Her dramatic, humorous and satirical works — ranging from performance through to sculpture and video — have influenced an entire generation of artists in a career spanning some 30 years. She is a mentor to many emerging artists as an artist, teacher, curator and editor.



"Cock" by Kira May
Oil on canvas, 2007

Double degree, double advantage:

U of T's combined MD/PhD program gives students training to be proficient in both research science and medicine

BY ANJUM NAYYAR

It's not often a student who has spent years completing his MD and PhD says he'd go back and do it all over again, but that's exactly how **Sunil Kalia**, a graduate of U of T's MD/PhD program, says he feels about his experience. Now in his residency, with four years to go before he completes his journey, Kalia says he's had a very memorable student experience.

"I would do it over again in a second," said Kalia, a second-year resident in the neurosurgery program. "I think the program is very supportive. The senior faculty are with you from day one when you arrive for your interview. Students are very supportive of each other because you're doing a very long program that's very challenging and having that student support is that critical element that gets you through it."

In 1984, the University of Toronto became the first Canadian medical school to offer an MD/PhD program and the model has grown in popularity.

Many countries including Canada are in constant need of people who have a keen understanding of both the clinical and scientific aspects of disease. The MD/PhD program offers students intensive training in both areas. Students accepted into the program have to make a major commitment, since they typically take seven to eight years to complete

their programs and become clinician-scientists.

"It's always been a struggle to build capacity and recruit clinical scientists because of the long time it takes to build capability in both research and clinical and be competitive as principal investigators," said **Professor Mel Silverman**, director of the program, who helped make it the stellar program it is today.

"It's one of the most prestigious programs in the country. Our program has been used as a template by other universities — about eight or nine others," Silverman said. "The students are very highly selected. We get 40 plus applications for the combined program and we basically admit five students a year."

As the largest program of its kind in Canada, the University of Toronto has taken on a leadership role. There are currently 42 MD/PhD students in the program at various stages, with an average of four to five immersed in each of the program's eight years. The MD/PhD students represent about five per cent of the total student body at the Faculty of Medicine.

Since its inception, the program has graduated 34 students, including 11 with academic appointments and the rest are currently in various stages of residency training both in Canada and prestigious institutions in the U.S.

The MD/PhD program was greatly strengthened as a



COURTESY OF MEL SILVERMAN

Professor Mel Silverman, director of the MD/PhD program, has helped make it one of North America's best.

result of the administrative and financial support it received during the period when **Professor Arnold Aberman** was dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

To celebrate his contributions to the Faculty of Medicine, an April 10 event kicked off the Tribute to Arnie Aberman gala slated for November. The tribute is being organized in co-operation with Israel's Weizmann Institute of Science and the funds raised will be shared equally by the

MD/PhD programs at the University of Toronto and the Weizmann Institute.

"The mission of our medical school is the discovery and application of knowledge to improve health," Aberman said. "By producing future medical scientists, the MD/PhD program is an important way that we accomplish that mission. If we did not have an MD/PhD program, it is likely that many, perhaps most, of our MD/PhD students would have sought such programs in the United

States and would not return to Canada."

Students like Kalia are grateful to have such an opportunity.

"What the program offers is a unique opportunity for people interested in having a career in academic medicine where you bridge research with clinical work," he said. "The program really gives us an opportunity for mentorship by faculty who are essentially doing the types of jobs that you're interested in obtaining."

Infant language development under study at UTM

BY ANJUM NAYYAR

If you've ever wondered why a mother always understands what her baby is saying no matter how garbled it might sound, you're not alone.

U of T researcher **Professor Elizabeth Johnson** and her research team at the Infant and Child Studies Centre at U of T Mississauga are studying how infants learn to communicate using language.

Johnson's previous research has shown that infants know a great deal about the sound structure and grammar of their native language even before they begin speaking. She'll continue this work with the help of a recent Canada Foundation for Innovation Leaders Opportunity Fund grant, designed to give universities added flexibility in

attracting and retaining leading researchers.

"... EVEN YOUNG

INFANTS PERCEIVE

WORDS IN VERY GOOD

DETAIL."

PROFESSOR ELIZABETH JOHNSON

Johnson's research will look at three related areas: how infants decode the speech signal and extract words from speech, how children first begin attaching meanings to words and the relationship between caregiver-infant interactions and early word learning.

"Children typically have very atypical pronunciation

of words so if you've spoken to someone else's child you might not understand a word they're saying but the mother understands everything," Johnson said. "And you might think that children mispronounce words because they do not know how they are supposed to sound. But as it turns out, even young infants perceive words in very good detail. In fact, by 6 to 7 months, infants have already started understanding the meaning of some words. We plan to use this grant to advance a new way to test comprehension, looking not just at when a child knows that dog refers to the object dog, but rather when that word integrates with other words that they know."

She said by looking at how parents interact with their children very early on, there

can be a better understanding of language development. Johnson points out adults and children attach meaning to words in similar ways. With adults, she said, if you find them pictures of different objects and ask them to find an object, they will auto-matically look at the object you've labelled. If the object you ask them to locate is not actually there, an adult will look at an object that is somehow related to it.

"What we have found is kids very early show this same effect. If you show a 24-month-old a yellow cup and a blue cup and you ask them, 'Where's the banana?' they look at the yellow cup. So what we plan to do now is look at how meaning develops."

Johnson also aims to create better testing methodologies

for studying word development. In collaboration with eye tracking experts, Johnson is hoping to develop new paradigms. Her team will be the first infant laboratory in Canada, and the second infant laboratory in the world, to have the new EyeLink remote eye tracker.

"We can actually track where a very young child will look on a screen so if you have a very complex scene you can track exactly where a child will look when you say something."

The funding will also be used to build a new infant and toddler laboratory specifically designed to advance the study of perceptual development and language acquisition in four- to 36-month-old children.

For more about CFI grants, see page 2.

Honouring the best and the brightest

Each year the University of Toronto Alumni Association annually celebrates excellence among members of the U of T community. Here are this year's winners.

PHOTOS BY PASCAL PAQUETTE



Geography professor Meric Gertler is a winner of the Carolyn Tuohy Impact on Public Policy Award, recognizing the impact of scholarship on public policy.

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

John H. Moss Scholarship, awarded to a graduating student with an undergraduate degree, recognizing academic achievement and extracurricular involvement

Jemy Mary Joseph, University of Toronto Scarborough

Completing a double major in neuroscience and biology, Jemy Joseph has been the recipient of University Health Network Academic Achievement and Canada Millennium Excellence Awards and Jother scholarships.

Joseph is an outstanding contributor to student life at University of Toronto Scarborough and a respected member of her academic community. The former vice-president (academics) and vice-chair of the Scarborough Campus Students' Union has advocated for many concerns, including those arising from individual courses and programs. She is also academic programmer for Student Housing and Residence Life. In this role, she facilitates programs to help residence students improve academically. In addition, Joseph is the vice-president (academics) of the Biology Students' Association, serving as the official link between biological science students and the department.

With plans to pursue her MD and PhD, she aims for a career as a clinical scientist, combining three areas which she is most passionate about — medicine, teaching and research.

Adel S. Sedra Distinguished Graduate Award, recognizing academic achievement, extracurricular leadership and involvement in the life of the university

Cynthia Blackstock, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work

Doctoral student Cindy Blackstock, a member of the Gitskan Nation, has seamlessly combined a career as one of Canada's best known experts on aboriginal child welfare with an outstanding record of scholarship.

Her academic and professional work is centred on managing the relationship between child protection and First Nations using concepts of reconciliation. As executive director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society, Blackstock has pioneered several major initiatives aimed at increasing the profile of the inequalities faced by aboriginal children and

advocating for societal change. She is completing her doctoral work while spearheading an international movement for reconciliation in indigenous child welfare, leading a subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues).

Blackstock has also established herself as a leader within the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. She willingly gives presentations to graduate students and circulates information on aboriginal social justice issues, enhancing the understanding of aboriginal culture, traditions and history and building a network of aboriginal scholarship.

The recipient of the 2007 Canadian Graduate Scholarship from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Blackstock has received numerous awards and is an active participant in many provincial and national research projects.

Jon S. Dellandrea Award for International Students, recognizing undergraduate academic achievement and extracurricular leadership

Amelie Lesser, Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering

A third-year student in the civil engineering program, Amelie Lesser is an outstanding student from Germany who maintains numerous extracurricular commitments.

From the moment she entered the program Lesser enthusiastically sought out leadership roles. She was elected first-year class rep and became involved with the Civil Club, currently serving as secretary. She was co-director of stage design for Skule-Nite, the annual engineering musical revue, as well as the publicity director for the Engineering Athletics Association. A member of the Varsity rowing team, she was awarded Athlete of the Year (first-year female) by the Engineering Athletics Association and a Faculty of Physical Education and Health T-Holders' Association Academic Excellence award while maintaining an excellent academic average.

Inheriting her father's passion for historical architecture, Lesser possesses a deep interest in preserving the historical cities of Europe, a career path she hopes to explore further.

Mohammed Sabri, Faculty of Arts and Science, New College

As a young child Mohammed Sabri had one goal: to become a successful surgeon. Now in this third year of studies in human biology, his experiences in neurosurgical research have left him with a profound desire to link clinical experience with laboratory research and pursue his MD and PhD in neuroscience.

Sabri has been an enthusiastic student leader and mentor, serving as vice-president of the Human Biology Student Union and past second-year representative. His strong communication and teamwork skills led him to take an active role in organizing events and overseeing the tasks of the junior executive committee. As a member of the Faculty of Arts and Science curriculum committee, he has played a crucial role in shaping programs and courses for future students.

As part of a summer research scholarship program at St. Michael's Hospital in 2007, Sabri developed an innovative study about cerebral vasospasm after subarachnoid hemorrhage. The study is now being considered for publication.

Jennifer Zhu, University of Toronto Scarborough

Jennifer Zhu is a co-op management student at the University of Toronto Scarborough. She came to U of T from China knowing she would be able to enhance her leadership, communication and analytical skills. Immediately after arriving on campus Zhu became involved with the Green Path Association, a Chinese international students' association at UTSC, and went on to become the association's vice-president. She also serves as a mentor, assisting other new Chinese international students with exam preparation. Zhu uses this opportunity to share her study and co-op experiences with other international students to better prepare them for future challenges.

Zhu has always promoted her Chinese heritage and returns home each summer to teach English as a second language. After graduating she hopes to pursue a career in finance and accounting, eventually returning to China to share her skills.

OUTSTANDING FACULTY AND STAFF

Carolyn Tuohy Impact on Public Policy Award, recognizing excellence in teaching, research and the impact of scholarship on public policy

Professor Meric Gertler, Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts and Science;
Professor David Wolfe, Department of Political Science, University of Toronto at Mississauga

Respected scholars and teachers, Professors Meric Gertler and David Wolfe have designed and built a powerful research program centred on the core concept of regional innovation. Their ongoing research examines one of the most fundamental questions of our age: What practices and policies generate and sustain economic prosperity in a globalized world? Their work embodies scholarly excellence, engaged teaching and a manifold impact on public policy.

Together the economic geographer (Gertler) and the political scientist established the Innovation Systems Research Network, a national network of scholars and practitioners dedicated to understanding the dynamics of economic growth. Their research recognizes that innovative regional clusters of stakeholders work best and are more creative when they meet face-to-face on a regular basis.

Gertler and Wolfe have been instrumental in assisting national institutions to develop precise measures of innovation. Thanks to their work the University of Toronto is now recognized as one of the global hubs of innovative research.

Chancellor's Award, for outstanding contributions by an administrative staff member

Mary-Ellen Yeomans, Joseph L. Rotman School of Management
Her nominators cite Mary-Ellen Yeomans as a dedicated, effective and innovative administrator, whose imaginative leadership has been instrumental in the success of the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management.

Yeomans began her career at U of T as the assistant to the vice-principal and registrar at Woodsworth College in 1980. She has held positions in the office of research and the Faculty of Law, including the title of assistant dean (administration and development). In 1993 she accepted her current post as assistant dean and chief administrative officer at the Rotman School.

Throughout her career at the University of Toronto, Yeomans has strived to continuously improve all aspects of administration with innovative solutions and maximum efficiency while providing superior service to faculty and students. She fosters the same attitude in her staff, encouraging them to be proactive within their own areas of responsibility.

André Tremblay, Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of U of T
Since joining OISE/UT's Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning in 2000 André Tremblay has assumed a leadership role in areas of graduate studies, student governance, research goals and community building events.

Tremblay has been instrumental in facilitating many of graduate studies' academic plan goals, most notably the merger of six semi-autonomous mini programs into the new curriculum studies and teacher development program. His innovation is reflected in the regular Doc Talk and MA sessions that are informal support forums for the program's graduate students.

His dedication to the OISE/UT community extends far beyond his own department. He was instrumental in OISE/UT centennial celebration in 2006-07, giving generously of his own time and talents to help produce *Inspiring Education*, a documentary on the history of education at the University of Toronto, and offering assistance in English-French translation.

Faculty Award, recognizing excellence in teaching, research and professional endeavours

Professor Martin Osborne, Faculty of Arts and Science

An exemplary colleague, teacher and scholar in the areas of microeconomic theory, political economy and game theory, Professor Martin Osborne has excelled as an academic leader, an innovator, an adviser and a role model for students and colleagues alike.

During his career, Osborne has made fundamental contributions to game theory, written a number of important papers that use game theory to enhance our understanding of economical and political arrangements, has, through a number of books, largely determined how game theory is taught to graduate and undergraduate students throughout the world and has co-founded a new open access journal, *Theoretical Economics*. As an educator, Osborne encourages students to think beyond the classroom.

In addition to his teaching and research, Osborne has played many important administrative roles. He was elected a fellow of the Econometric Society in 2003.

Joan E. Foley Quality of Student Experience Award, given to a student, alumna/a, administrative staff or faculty member who has made significant contribution to improving the quality of academic or extracurricular student life on campus

Professor Greg Evans, Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry, Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering
Throughout his terms as chair (first-year) and vice-dean (undergraduate),



Chancellor's Award winner André Tremblay from OISE/UT is one of two staff members being recognized for outstanding contributions to U of T.

Professor Greg Evans has made the student experience a priority in both the classroom and in co-curricular and extracurricular engagement.

Evans has led subcommittees on student experience, outreach and communication as part of the faculty's planning exercise and established breadth and flexibility in course curriculum with the introduction of self-directed minors at the undergraduate level. He has worked closely on a number of programs aimed at enhancing the student experience including the FROSH Friday seminar series and Undergraduate Engineering Research Day (UnERD), as well as overseeing the consolidation of the engineering student recruitment and outreach offices.

More recently Evans has worked to create a faculty-wide student leadership development program. He continues to work closely with the many engineering student organizations and clubs, earning him the distinction of being a "professor for the students."

Ludwik and Estelle Jus Memorial Human Rights Prize, recognizing positive and lasting contributions to education and action in the fight against discrimination. Faculty, staff and students may be nominated for this award.

Professor David Clandfield, Department of French, Faculty of Arts and Science, New College
Outstanding teacher, mentor and leader, David Clandfield brings an innovative, far-reaching and multi-faceted approach to equity in education. In a career that spans 40 years, including 10 years as principal of New College, Clandfield is known for his commitment to equity and diversity.

As principal at New College he championed many initiatives promoting access to post-secondary education by under-represented groups, including support for the Transitional Year Program, mentorship programs, tutoring programs at Fleming Public School and access to public space for equity-seeking student groups and activities. In appreciation of his commitment to diversity and improved student life, Clandfield has received awards from the former Students' Administrative Council, the

Arts and Science Students' Union, the Muslim Students Association, and the Black Students' Association. At the end of his term as principal, his friends and colleagues set up the David Clandfield Scholarship for International Students, awarded annually to a New College international student.

A tireless advocate of human rights, Clandfield has helped forge alliances between the university and local community groups by offering support to community-based programs. Clandfield's scholarly publications cover a wide range of equity and diversity issues.

Northrop Frye Award, recognizing distinguished achievements in linking teaching and research

Professor Paul Stevens, Department of English, Faculty of Arts and Science

Professor Paul Stevens of the Department of English is one of the world's leading authorities on John Milton, a distinction acknowledged with his appointment as a Canada Research Chair in English Literature in 2004. An exemplary teacher, scholar and innovator, he has expanded the understanding of social dimensions of 17th-century literature, particularly in the areas of Renaissance ideas of empire and nationalism.

As an educator, Stevens' passion, humour and enthusiastic approach to teaching has had a tremendous impact on his students. His creative approach to linking teaching and research at the graduate level includes the Canada Milton Seminar, a symposium that provides graduate students with the opportunity to interact with important members of the field. His graduate pedagogy and professional skills courses are highly regarded by students and colleagues alike.

Stevens currently serves as the president of the Milton Society of America and is the 2007-08 visiting fellow at All Souls College, Oxford.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

REMOVAL OF FLYERS
SELF-CENSORSHIP

In March 2006, fliers containing one of the notorious Danish cartoons appeared on our campus. Apparently deeming them hate literature, the anti-racism office had them removed and also forwarded them to the Toronto police for advice. But that body — which one would not expect to be sympathetic to academic freedom issues — nevertheless did not consider the fliers to promote hate, calling them only "points of interest," whatever that may mean. Responding to criticism by Professor John Furedy (U of T's position on freedom of speech politicized rather than principled, March 11), President David Naylor has defended the actions of the anti-racism office by posing a specious moral equivalence between the Danish cartoons

and violence-stoking Nazi graffiti (President Naylor responds, March 11).

The president's concerns for campus well-being notwithstanding, I for one suggest that the anti-racism office has shown inappropriate sensitivity to a religious group, in this case Muslims, at the expense of a timely affirmation of freedom of speech. Flemming Rose, culture editor of *Jyllands-Posten* — the Danish newspaper that published the cartoons — argues in a Feb. 15 opinion piece in the *Wall Street Journal* that radical Islam is mounting a global assault on freedom of speech. Furthermore the West, guided by incoherent multicultural notions of inclusiveness, seems unwilling to face this ugly fact.

However maladroit the cartoons may be, by any standard they are within the bounds of political satire common in democratic states. More important, such pointed

commentary is sorely needed, as Rose noted, the most notorious, that depicting the Prophet with a bomb in his turban, makes a legitimate point. In *When Religion Causes Evil*, theologian Charles Kimball — an ordained Baptist minister, it is to be noted — shows that all three of the Mosaic religions have a capacity for evil arising from a penchant for absolute truth claims based on questionable interpretations of ostensibly inerrant scripture. Examples from North American

Christianity cited by Kimball include assassinations of physicians performing abortions and the assertion in 1980 by the then-president of the Southern Baptist Convention that "God does not hear the prayers of Jews [sic]." Yet, as Rose noted, in the West there is a tendency to self-censorship prompted by the notion that "religious feelings and taboos need to be treated with a kind of sensibility and respect that other feelings and ideas cannot command."

As a courageous response to the Danish police's recent apprehension of would-be assassins of the turban-bomb cartoon's author, Danish newspapers republished the cartoon posted at this university. As an institution devoted to the search for truth — however offensive it might be deemed by certain individuals — surely we can do better than run to the police.

PHILIP SULLIVAN
AEROSPACE STUDIES

Frosh Diary FINALS

BY BEA PALANCA

I can't believe that I already have a final test on Monday! I don't feel completely prepared yet.

It's a bit of a mad rush for final assignments. I know I have one that is overdue. My last assignment and it's overdue! I'm so annoyed at myself for that. I couldn't get to making progress on my paper writing.

Some folks are done all of their final assignments and can now focus on studying for their exams.

I think I'm one of the more fortunate, standing on the greener side of the fence, as I have only two official exams (they're listed on the exam timetable, thus I say official). I know Jenny has five (ahh!) to write, most of them being of the scientific nature. This is an official Good Luck greeting for you, Jenny!

I have an Italian final on the 24th and a physics one (theoretical with absolutely no math) on the 29th. Pumped to

study! But I am excited to get some revision done soon. I want to do well.

Meanwhile, I've come to realize a truth: grades are either only letters or numbers. They are not a measure of who I am as a person, nor are they the be-all and end-all of my university career. It is important to carry this knowledge, so I hope that other students who come across this article keep this in their minds. My eldest sister Isabela wishes that she had learned this earlier in her time here at U of T; the enlightening truth was spoken to her and her classmates by their professor during her fourth year.

But this is not to say that a 1,500-word paper on phyllotaxis does not deserve my best effort. What I mean is that even if I get a C in the end, I know that it's OK. Maybe I missed the mark, or my TA wasn't that impressed. I won't have grades rule my time here. That is silly. It is a disservice to my education.



How much other learning will I miss if I don't spend time out of the library? How many skills will I not get to hone because I really need a B+ on this paper? And the next one? And the one after that?

I hope I am speaking clearly. I hope that others do remember this small nugget of "wisdom."

I'm hoping that I remember it too.

Bea Palanca is a first-year Victoria College humanities student. She shares her experiences with the Bulletin on a regular basis.

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Top 5 signs of spring on campus

St. George:

1. It's farewell to heavy down jackets and hello to floral skirts and shorts. Staff, faculty and students wear vibrant colours again — reds, blues, greens.
2. The libraries are emptier than usual. It's the time of year when students prefer to study outdoors. Suddenly, benches and areas of grass are crowded.

U of T Scarborough:

3. The Canada geese return after a long winter break. They're seen on the H Wing patio, the walkways and even near students.

4. Bikes are the new car. With the arrival of spring, students are returning to pollution-free alternatives to commute to school.

U of T Mississauga:

5. People apply for memberships to BikeShare (<http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/bikeshare/>). This environmentally friendly program allows students and employees at U of T to rent a bike for 24 hours — all free of charge.

COMPILED BY
CATHERINE NGAI

He Said She Said

The 'Yeah, but' Syndrome BY PAUL FRAUMENI

Don't say no one warned you.

If you are thinking of working at a university, or if you are in your first university job, be aware that no one is ever going to agree with you easily.

It makes sense when you realize that a university is a place where ideas are generated. Idea generation demands debate. Our scholars are here to pass on knowledge and information to students (See, that's the liver, etc.) but the university experience is also one where students must learn to think for themselves. The best way to do that is to encourage debate (That doesn't look like the liver to me, Professor. Actually, it looks like the heel of my running shoe. Are you sure it's a liver?).

Still, the tendency of everyone at U of T to debate everything does get annoying.

I'm talking about the Yeah, but syndrome. YBS for short.

I first encountered this in 1990 at a university in western Canada. I was a consultant then, specializing in helping organizations create print and AV materials to be used in fundraising campaigns. I was meeting with someone big on the campaign, trying to get a feel for culture in that part of the country. "So, I guess history here is shaped by the prairie experience, eh? Like a prairie mentality, eh?" I asked. "Yeah, but it's really a mountain mentality." That's where it began. It seemed innocent at first. Then, it slowly began to establish itself as a tangible syndrome.

Not long after, in a meeting at another university, I suggested something and someone responded with, "Yeah, but..." and then someone else said, "Yeah, but..." to the first Yeah, but. Which, I guess, meant Yeah, but No. 2 was agreeing with me. Are you agreeing with me?" I asked. "Yeah, I am, but..." (Picture my eyes rolling here.)

It's not always Yeah, but... It can come in many forms, like vampires. There's, just to be the devil's advocate, or I can see your point, but..., I don't mean to start a whole thing here, but... or the more coy, Let me just play off that idea.

Someone is just bizarre. Once, someone replied to me, "That's a little

like taking coals to Newcastle." This time I got to play the game: "Yeah, but what the hell does that mean?"

There's also the classic university move that is used when there are just too many Yeah, but: Let's form a working group and look into this further. To which someone will reply, Yeah, but we don't have time. To which someone else will say, Yeah, but we need a diversity of opinions. To which another someone will add, Yeah, but it's the summer and no one is here, etc.

Maybe there's an upside to YBS. You never know, but McLuhan might have originally said, The medium is the, I dunno, the thing. Wouldn't you agree? And a colleague might have said, Yeah, but maybe it would be better to say, The medium is the message. And, thus, history was made.

Of course, it's not only at universities.

Watch a daytime soap. No solutions, ever. "Dan, I'm leaving you for Don," says Deanna. "Yeah, but I thought you loved me?" "Yeah, but you're too negative." "Yeah, but you make me be negative." "Yeah, but you have really bad breath, too." "Yeah, but..."

Still, YBS is particularly bad at universities. I'd imagine that snow day we enjoyed in the winter was a whole night and early morning's worth of YBS.

The solution?

A Buddhist friend once told me it's better to substitute but with and. That way, you get around the contrariness of but.

Say you're planning the design of a new lab and you suggest, "Let's put double glass doors here" and someone disagrees. Instead of responding with, Yeah, but..., that person would say, Yeah, and...

See? It works. You can't disagree when you say Yeah, and.... It builds consensus. Yeah, and, let's do that and go for a beer.

Yeah, but, I'd rather have a mojito...

Paul Fraumeni is the director of communications for the vice-president (research). He will be sharing this space with fellow columnist Caz Zytkauskas.

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LECTURES

The Golden Age of Detective
Fiction: The British Quest for the
Perfect Murder.

Wednesday, April 16
Prof. Luca Saniolo, Italian studies. 001
Emmanuel College. 7:30 p.m. Friends of
the Victoria University Library

Structure-Based Genetic
Surveillance Mechanisms.

Friday, April 18
Prof. Andrew Fire, Stanford University
School of Medicine. Ben Sadovsk
Auditorium, Joseph & Wolf Lebovic
Health Complex, Mt. Sinai Hospital.
11 a.m.

Energy at the Turning Point:

Hydrogen or Electricity?
Wednesday, April 23
Prof. Sanjoy Banerjee, University of
California, Santa Barbara. 116 Wallberg
Building. 12:30 p.m. Chemical
Engineering & Applied Chemistry

SEMINARS

Forensic Mental Health:
Where It Came From,
Where It Is Going and
Why It Matters More Than Ever.

Wednesday, April 16
Prof. John Pettila, University of South
Florida. Vivian & David Campbell
Conference Facility, Munk Centre for
International Studies. 5 to 7 p.m.
Psychiatry

Regeneration of the Pancreatic
Beta Cells: The Role of
Pancreatic Progenitors.

Friday, April 18
Prof. Susan Bonner-Weir, Harvard
Medical School. Third-floor conference
room, Mt. Sinai Hospital, 60 Murray St.
8 a.m. Banting & Best Diabetes Centre

Genomic Analysis of Stress-
Regulated Genes in *Drosophila*.

Friday, April 18
Prof. Tim Westwood, biology, U of T
Mississauga. 432 Ramsay Wright
Building. 1 p.m. Cell & Systems Biology

The Unity of the Intellect Is
Descartes' Understanding
of Ideas.

Friday, April 18
James Thomas, CRSS fellow.
205 Northrop Frye Hall, Victoria
University. 3:30 to 5 p.m.
Reformation & Renaissance Studies

This Won't Hurt a Bit:
The Ethics of Promising
Pain Relief.

Wednesday, April 23

Hanneh Kaufman, Joint Centre for
Bioethics. Great Hall, 88 College St.
4:10 p.m. Joint Centre for Bioethics

Dissecting Functions of RIN4,
an Arabidopsis Protein Linking
Basal and R-Gene-Mediated
Defences.

Friday, April 25
Prof. David Mackey, Ohio State
University. 432 Ramsay Wright Building.
1 p.m. Cell & Systems Biology

Epigenetic Regulation by
Histones and Histone Variants.

Monday, April 28
Prof. Peter Cheung, medical
biophysics. 2172 Medical Sciences
Building. 4 p.m. Laboratory Medicine &
Pathobiology

Role of Nbc1 and A2E in
Secretory Ameloblasts.

Wednesday, April 30
Prof. Michael Brown, University of
Southern California. 237 FierGerald
Building. 11:30 a.m. CHIR Group in
Matrix Dynamics

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

Well-Being in a Competitive
World as Students and Beyond.

Wednesday, April 16
Massey Grand Rounds symposium.
Medical students and residents, as
physician-in-training, graduate
students and researchers-in-training,
juggle professional and personal
responsibilities. This conference will
explore issues related to well-being
both as trainees as well as in their
professional lives that lie ahead.
Topics for discussion include priority
setting among students, the role of
mentors, access to mental health
resources for medical students,
economic and personal stress and
family life. Massey College. Noon to 5
p.m. Registration and program details:
www.massey.utoronto.ca/symposium.
Massey College and Medicine

Diversity, Growth and
Democracy: Indonesia's
Challenges Ahead and
Implication for Canada-Indonesia
Relations.

Tuesday, April 22
Panel I: Regional trends: co-operation,
security and the role of middle power
co-operation; Panel II: Trade,
investment and development: regional
and domestic challenges; Panel III:
Multiculturalism and the challenge of
diversity; Panel IV: The media and
public perceptions of the other. Vivian
& David Campbell Conference Facility,
Munk Centre for International Studies.
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration:
webapp.mcs.utoronto.ca/Asian
Institute

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Opera Series.
**Friday, April 18 and
Saturday, April 19**

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PLAYS & READINGS

U of T Bookstore Series. Wednesday, April 16

An evening of conversation with Patricia Pearson, who brings her new book, *A Brief History of Anxiety (Yours & Mine)*, and Jeff Warren, producer of CBC's *The Current*. Library, Hart House. 7:30 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

THOMAS FISHER RARE BOOK LIBRARY A Hundred Years of Philosophy From the Slater and Walsh Collections.

To April 25
Books printed between 1857 and the end of the 20th century. Hours: Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

JOHN W. GRAHAM LIBRARY TRINITY COLLEGE

The 68 and Canada: An Exhibition to Mark the 20th Anniversary of the Toronto Summit and the U of T G8 Research Group.
To May 30

This exhibition features examples of documentary milestones, pictorial records and unique mementoes from the 33 summits. Sanderson Rare Books Room. Hours: Monday to Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.; Sunday, 1 to 11:45 p.m.

JUSTINA M. BARNICK GALLERY HART HOUSE Good Years: University of Toronto Tri-Campus Student Exhibition.

To April 20
New work by students from U of T's art departments at St. George, Mississauga and Scarborough. East and West Galleries. Gallery hours: Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m.

DORIS MCCARTHY GALLERY U OF T SCARBOROUGH Urban Myths & Modern Fables.

To May 11
Drawing on the notion of myth or the idea of a fable, the artists employ fictive strategies to comment on the contemporary world. Gallery hours:

Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 5 p.m.

BLACKWOOD GALLERY U OF T MISSISSAUGA Triple Bill & Cineplastic Campus.

To June 1
Triple Bill by Isabelle Pauwels, video projection, and Cineplastic Campus by Stéphane Gilet (located in the eGallery, Communication, Culture & Technology Building). Gallery hours: Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

MISCELLANY

InSpirit: The Festival to Rejuvenate the Inner Self. Tuesday, April 15 to Saturday, April 19

A series of spiritual events designed to allow one to explore the ancient teachings of the East and their practical application in everyday life. Special guest: Devanrita Swami, a Yale graduate and an author with more than 40 years of spiritual experience: April 15: Does Unconditional Love Exist? Discover the Missing Ingredient: April 16: Vegetarianism — Trendy, Healthy, Environment-Friendly — The Next Step; April 17: Spiritual Economics; April 18: Ancient Wisdom for Modern Times: Bhagavad Gita Summarized. Multifit Centre, Koffler Institute. 6:30 p.m. Details www.urbanEdgeYoga.com or 647-261-7499.

INSPIRIT

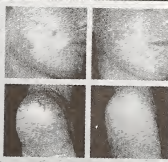
Devanrita Swami — a Yale graduate-turned-monk for 40+ years and an advisor to Russian Chamber of Commerce — presents this April:

15th: Does Unconditional Love Exist? Discover the Missing Ingredient
16th: Vegetarianism — Trendy, Healthy, Environment-Friendly — The Next Step? 17th: Spiritual Economics — If men were purely material, physical nourishment would suffice.
19th: Ancient Wisdom for Modern Times — Bhagavad Gita Summarized

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WE VALUE YOUR OPINION

That's why the back page of *The Bulletin* is devoted to Forum, a place where thoughts, concerns and opinions of interest to colleagues across the university find expression. Original essays by members of the community are both welcomed and encouraged. Faculty, staff and students are invited to submit or discuss ideas with:

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UNCONVENTIONAL MAGNETS AND UNCONVENTIONAL SUPERCONDUCTORS

Thursday May 1st, 2008

Earth Sciences Centre, ES 1050, 33 Willcocks Street, 1:30 p.m.

Patrick Lee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

ATTO-SCIENCE

Thursday May 1st, 2008

Earth Sciences Centre, ES 1050, 33 Willcocks Street, 3:30 p.m.

Paul Corkum, University of Ottawa and National Research Council of Canada

LASER INDUCED MOLECULAR IMAGING

Friday, May 2nd, 2008

Koffler Institute, KP 108, at the end of Bancroft Avenue. 1:30 p.m.

Paul Corkum, University of Ottawa and National Research Council of Canada

QUANTUM SPIN LIQUID, FROM DROUGHT TO DELUGE

Friday, May 2nd, 2008

Koffler Institute, KP 108, at the end of Bancroft Avenue. 3:15 p.m.

Patrick Lee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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FREE SPEECH AND CIVILITY: Esoteric Notions or Lived Values?

BY NOUMAN ASHRAF

B.F. Skinner, probably the most prominent psychologist since Sigmund Freud, once noted that "Education is what survives when what has been learned has been forgotten." (*New Scientist*, 1964). That observation is particularly apropos as we think about the role of public discourse in an academic setting. The latest census data about the diversity of our city is not much of an epiphany to anyone who works closely with the range of communities that call our campuses home, as I have the privilege to do as the university's anti-racism and cultural diversity officer. In fact, the diversity of our faculty, staff and student complements behoves us collectively to pay much-needed attention to the way in which we harmonize demands for often intersecting and competing human rights within a pluralistic community.

I would posit that if and only if our students learn an approach to civic participation that asks these tough questions while they are members of the academy can we truly feel that we have indeed imbued them with values that reflect the makings of a truly comprehensive education. I hope that long after students have departed from our campuses, they will rely upon their various experiences and approaches vis-à-vis difference in aptly dealing with the challenges that they encounter post-graduation.

We can, thankfully, seek some solace in the fact that as members of a learning community, there are certain institutional values that serve us well in this pluralistic environment. The first of these is our institutional commitment to freedom of speech and expression. What is essential to note about this value is that it is often more popular in principle than in practice. The very premise of this vital freedom contains within it the highest of probabilities of causing offence to some members of our community. However, academic inquiry and original critique have always been rewarding — yet at times unpopular — activities within the hallowed halls of the academy.

The second noteworthy institutional value in our quest for a truly educated citizenry is the academic community's embrace of civility as an essential prerequisite for all its members. How then, the question remains, do we define civility? One way would be to view civility as a benign agreement to simply tolerate others. While such a modality of social coexistence may well be appropriate in other settings, I would suggest that for an academic community, that is setting the bar far too low.

I prefer Professor Mark Kingwell's more robust framing, when he suggests, "Civility, as I interpret it, still allows ample room for giving offence and for making politically unpopular or even dangerous claims. But these must be claims that are offered as part of an ongoing dialogue of justification — that is, open to further assessment by interlocutors. They must be claims, in short, and not simply abuse or insults" (Kingwell, 1995, p.245). After all, if we cannot link civility to the bedrock value of free speech and expression, then we cannot capitalize on its specific relevance to the core mission of academic inquiry in our learning community.

Don Eberly, an American scholar with an interest in civility as an enabler of democratic renewal, reminds us that we cannot simply stop at a utopian plea for everyone to get along. He posits, "If mean-spirited public debate is unhealthy for democracy, so is civility that is synonymous with fuzziness and fudging" (Eberly, 1998, p. 102). He further articulates two essential prerequisites for civil public

our diversity as a facilitator for engaging our various communities.

So, what are some metrics that enable us to measure our institutional commitment to this goal of engagement? I will suggest two simple ones that may be useful. At the outset, we need to critically examine the ways in which we lend credence to the issues of identity within every facet of our learning community, be it in our classrooms, residences, libraries or social spaces. In this regard I am reminded of an East African story that I share with my children all the time. In it, the lion cub comes to his father and inquires, "Father, is not the lion the king of the jungle?" To this, the lion replies in the affirmative. The puzzled cub then follows up with the following query, "Then, why is it that every book that I read ends with the hunter killing the lion?" The sagacious lion pauses at first, and then responds, "My son, every story will have

precisely this ending until such time that the lions learn how to write." The moral of this tale is simple yet profound. One way in which civility facilitates engagement is by creating an accepted practice for not just the articulation but also the validation of the discourse of those that have been traditionally marginalized or under-represented.

Another signpost on our communal journey to engagement through civil discourse is recognizing the inherent value in dialogic work, which often goes uncelebrated. This is the realization that our values sometimes come to life by way of a collective phenomenon that Professor Joseph Badaracco Jr. at Harvard calls quiet leadership. He cites the example of Albert Schweitzer, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1952 for his medical work in Africa, who noted, "Of all the will towards the ideal in mankind only a small part can manifest itself in public action. All the rest of this force must be content with small and obscure deeds. The sum of these, however, is a thousand times stronger than the acts of those who receive wide public recognition. The latter, compared to the former, are like the foam on the waves of a deep ocean."

So, while we may not recognize the impact of civil discourse on an ongoing basis, we must pay attention to the cumulative effect that this communal exercise has on creating this rich and fecund environment that we recognize as the mark of a great learning community. John Buchan, also known as Baron Tweedsmuir, who was Canada's 15th governor general, once remarked that "to live for a time close to great minds is the best kind of education." By that measure, I would argue that our ability to lay claim to being a great academic community relies upon an ongoing collective undertaking that utilizes free speech and enables civility to become a lived core value in bringing the great minds in our midst into a robust and continuous exchange of ideas.

Nouman Ashraf is the University of Toronto's anti-racism and cultural diversity officer.

discussion to be effective. The first of these is the acknowledgement that democracy is enriched by competing perspectives, which entails an honest and fair competition over ideas. The second is a fundamental respect for the rights and dignity of the other as a fellow human being.

While the aforementioned may seem rudimentary, they are worth articulating, particularly in an environment as diverse as our own. It is even more crucial when we aspire to a higher ambition than simply tolerating this diversity. It is, in fact, imperative to embracing an ethos of harnessing



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